

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2020 at 7:30pm
Meeting held via Zoom Video Conference

- 1- **Call to Order:** First Selectman Spaulding Call to Order at 7:39pm. Also present were Selectman Stephan Grozinger, Selectwoman Samantha Nestor, Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz, Director of Parks and Recreation Dave Ungar, Director of Youth Services Laura Cleary, Youth Services Program Coordinator Charlene Monn, Social Services Director Allison Lisbon, Emergency Management Director Sgt. Joe Miceli and Weston Residents.
- 2- **Discussion/decision regarding hiring Mark Perry as a Part Time Dispatcher:** The Board of Selectmen interviewed Mr. Perry who has worked 35 years in public safety. Selectman Grozinger moved to hire Mark Perry as a Part-Time Dispatcher effective immediately. Selectwoman Nestor seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 3- **Discussion/decision regarding status of Parks and Recreation summer events and programs in consideration of Covid-19:** Director of Parks & Recreation, Dave Ungar: Mr. Ungar gave an update from the Parks and Recreation Commission about the July 4th fireworks event and the evaluation of operating summer programs. First Selectman Spaulding requested an update to as to how finances are affected by cancelling such programs. Mr. Ungar explained that he will provide future updated about the status of summer programs. Selectwoman Nestor moved to accept the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission to cancel the 4th of July fireworks. Selectman Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4- **Discussion/decision regarding status of Youth Services Summer events and programs in consideration of Covid-19:** Youth Services Director, Laura Cleary, Youth Services Program Coordinator, Charlene Monn: Ms. Cleary spoke about their virtual Spring WOW programs. She also said they are waiting to hear guidance form the state and the school. Ms. Monn said she has been working on virtual programs for the summer. Ms. Monn stated they are ready to move ahead once they get guidance.
- 5- **Discussion/decision regarding Covid-19's impact on Social Services:** Social Services Director, Allison Lisbon described how Social Services has been incredibly busy with new clients and current clients who are now seeing loss of income and employment. She said there are a total of 66 households in financial need that are serviced by their department. She explained how she has been working on food and grocery gift cards distribution in partnership with the Weston food pantry. Ms. Lisbon stated they are also planning biweekly curbside pick-up at the pantry.
- 6- **Discussion/decision regarding reopening plans for Town outdoor facilities and buildings –** First Selectman Spaulding provided an update on the Covid-19 situation in Weston and neighboring towns. Sgt. Joe Miceli spoke about plans for reopening, including what metrics have been taken into consideration. He spoke in favor of opening up for individual use the High School track on Monday and later the two fields at the school complex. He said social distancing rules would be in place. He said he hopes to eventually open =more outdoor areas to the public. First Selectman Spaulding said if things become problematic again, they would need to re-close the facilities.

Selectwoman Nestor asked about protocols, for example do people need to wear masks when using the track. Selectman Grozinger asked about state regulations that are still keeping things closed. Sgt. Miceli said opening up these areas would not be in violation of the governor's executive orders. Selectman Grozinger asked about possibility of posting signs outside of these areas with policies that need to be followed. Sgt. Miceli responded overall we need to monitor and make changes as needed. Selectman Grozinger asked if the BOS could meet next Wednesday to discuss how the track opening has gone and plan ahead for future openings. Selectman Grozinger moved that subject to having a Board of Selectman meeting next Wednesday, we open the track on Monday during daytime hours, the turf fields on Wednesday and then more fields following Wednesday, all subject to review. Selectwoman Nestor seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- 7- **Discussion/decision to authorize a \$5,000 supplemental for the Ravenwood water system:** Mr. Luiz said the State is requiring more testing of water systems. Selectwoman Nestor moved to authorize a FY '19-'20 supplemental for the Ravenwood Water System, budget # 530, line item 51301, in the amount of \$5,000. Selectman Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 8- **Discussion/decision to hire seasonal Public Works employees** -Zachary Spencer, Lev Rubin and Tony Fontana: Mr. Luiz described job responsibilities. Selectman Grozinger moved to hire Zachary Spencer, Lev Rubin and Tony Fontana as DPW seasonal employees effective May 18, 2020. Selectwoman Nestor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- 9- **Discussion/decision regarding creating a Town Census Committee:** First Selectman Spaulding explained the purpose of the committee, which is to assist municipal government to promote and encourage response to the 2020 census. Selectwoman Nestor moved to create a Complete Town Committee and to charge the committee with increasing awareness and motivating residents to respond to the 2020 Census. Selectman Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 10- **Discussion/decision regarding creating a Long Term Recovery Committee:** First Selectman Spaulding said the governor has urged local government to create this committee. The BOS reached a consensus that it would act as the Committee, given the residential nature of the Town.
- 11- **Minutes Approval:** Selectman Grozinger moved to approve the unapproved minutes of the April 16, 2020 Board of Selectmen meeting, as presented. Selectwoman Nestor seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 12- **Adjourn:** Selectwoman Nestor asked for an agenda item be added to the next BOS meeting regarding the BOS vote to give the BOF authority to set the budget, and the amount of time the BOF has to set the budget, and how other matters normally approved of by referendum of Special Town Meeting would be handled in light of the Governor's Executive Orders related to Covid 19. First Selectman said Town Attorney Ira Bloom would be available to discuss. Selectwoman Nestor moved to adjourn at 9:17pm. Selectman Grozinger seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by:

Randi Derene, Administrative Assistant